



U.S. Department of Energy Environmental Impact
Statement for the Alignment, Construction, and
Operation of a Rail Line to a Geologic Repository at
Yucca Mountain, Nye County, NV

RECEIVED
JUN 02 2004

040240

5/20/04

SCOPING COMMENT SHEET

Name: John A. Huston
Jan Cole Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number (Optional): _____

How did you hear about us?

Newspaper ☒ Public meetings _____ Other _____
Neighbor _____ News coverage _____

☒ If you want to receive information about the Rail Alignment Environmental Impact Statement by mail, please check here.

COMMENTS:

Concerning Interface With Mainline Railroad:

We are owners of property in Caliente and in Rainbow Canyon, Lincoln County, NV. We believe that the Caliente Alternative should be discarded in favor of either the Eccles or Crestline alternatives since the Caliente Alternative is inconsistent with safety considerations, would take or impact valuable and unique real estate, structures, improvements, business, natural resources and unique if not endangered plant and animal species, and is inappropriate considering present and future use of the Indian Cove to the common segment corridor. (see addl sheet).

Please note: Your comment(s) must be received by the Department of Energy by June 1, 2004 to be considered. Comments received after the close of the comment period will be considered to the extent practicable.

If you prefer to mail your comments, you may use the back side of this sheet as a postage-paid, self-mailer. To do so, fold in thirds along the dotted line so the address and postage-paid notice are visible, then secure with tape.

Please feel free to attach additional pages (if mailing, more postage may be needed).

Further, the old railroad right-of-way has been abandoned and private and public improvements constructed thereon such that there is not presently any rail corridor from the Town of Caliente to the common segment.

Since it has been important in planning rail haul of nuclear waste to avoid and route around populated areas and cities and towns where possible, it would be unfaithful to and inconsistent with the standards and considerations, valuations and priorities to — at the very end of the line or nearly so — build the rail line to Yucca Mountain right through the Town of Caliente, NV.

Representatives of the DOE present at the Public Scoping Meeting on May 5, 2004 indicated to many of us present that the Eccles Alternative made the most sense when safety and cost standards ^{that} have been used, weighed elsewhere in planning rail routes for hauling nuclear waste to Yucca Mountain are applied to this rail line alignment.

The Caliente Alternative, if built, would destroy or improperly impact unique and valuable geothermal, aquatic, cultural, archeological, water and land resources while creating a risk to people that DOE seeks to avoid elsewhere in its rail routing.